

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A coolant for fuel cells that is used to cool down fuel cells, comprising:

a base material that is a water solution ~~mixture~~ containing a glycol; and
rust-preventive additives including an alkaline additive and an acidic ~~additive,~~
additive;

_____ wherein the alkaline additive comprises at least one of triethanolamine, diethanolamine and ~~monoethanolamine,~~ monoethanolamine;

_____ wherein the acidic additive comprises at least one of a ~~phosphoric acid compound that is not an organophosphoric acid compound at equal to or more than 0% but less than 0.2% and an organophosphoric acid compound at more than 0% but less than 0.01%, or at least one of the phosphoric acid compound that is not an organophosphoric compound at more than 0% but less than 0.2% and an organophosphoric acid compound at equal to or more than 0% but less than 0.01%;~~ orthophosphoric acid, at a concentration ranging from 0.1% to 1.0%, and phosphonic acid, at a concentration ranging from 0.001% to 0.01%; and

_____ wherein the coolant has an electric conductivity equal to or less than 100 μ S/cm.

3-7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) A coolant for fuel cells in accordance with claim 2, wherein the rust-preventive additive causes said coolant for fuel cells to have a hydrogen ion exponent of about 6 to 9.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A coolant for fuel cells in accordance with claim 2, wherein the rust-preventive additive has rust-preventive performance against aluminum material.

11-12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 2, said coolant being decontaminated by a coolant decontamination system using either one of an ion exchange resin and a chelating resin.

14. (Previously Presented) A coolant in accordance with claim 2, said coolant having undergone deoxidation resulting in a reduction in the amount of oxygen in the coolant.

15. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method of enclosing a coolant in accordance with ~~claim 1~~ claim 2 in a cooling circuit for a stack of fuel cells, said method ~~comprising the steps of:~~ comprising:

deoxidizing said coolant; and

enclosing said deoxidized coolant with an inert gas in said cooling circuit.

16. (Previously Presented) A cooling system for a stack of fuel cells, said cooling system comprising:

a coolant in accordance with claim 2; and

a cooling circuit in which said coolant and an inert gas are enclosed.

17. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A method of decontaminating a coolant, said method of ~~comprising the steps of:~~ comprising:

preparing a water-containing base material;

preparing a rust-preventive additive that functions to keep an electric conductivity of said coolant at a low level and to maintain a hydrogen ion exponent of said coolant in a substantially neutral level; and

removing deteriorating substances from a solution ~~mixture~~ of the base material and the rust-preventive additive with either one of an ion exchange resin and a chelating resin.

18. (Previously Presented) The coolant according to claim 2, wherein the coolant is used in a fuel cell system.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the coolant has a conductivity of less than about 100 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$.